Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include corrections to Figs. 3, 14 and 69. Replacement sheets are provided to replace the original sheets of Figs. 3, 14 and 69, and include the following corrections:

In Fig. 3, a typographical error has been corrected as marked in the user data file description.

In Fig. 14, a typographical error has been corrected as marked at step S810.

In Fig. 69, a typographical error has been corrected as marked at step S3120.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets; and
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes Made.

Remarks/Arguments:

This Amendment adds no new claims, and is provided to amend the drawing figures, specification and claims 1, 3 and 59. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-60 will be pending. Claims 1, 3 and 57 are independent.

Miscellaneous

The Examiner is requested to provide formal notation of the acknowledgement of receipt of all certified copies of the priority documents. As noted in the Office Action, boxes 12 and 12(a) are checked, but none of boxes 12(a)(1), 12(a)(2), or 12(a)(3) are checked. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to provide an Office Action Summary with the next communication in which boxes 12, 12(a), and 12(a)(1) are checked to provide complete acknowledgement.

Drawings

The Applicants have amended Fig. 3 to correct a typographical error. The term --data-- has been replaced with "date" as supported at paragraph 148.

The Applicants have amended Fig. 14 to correct a typographical error. The term --QUIDE-- has been replaced with "GUIDE".

The Applicants have also amended Fig. 69 to correct a similar typographical error. The term --GHIDE-- has been replaced with "GUIDE".

Specification

The Applicant has amended the specification to correct typographical errors only.

Rejections of the Claims under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5, 9, 12-17, 19-24, 28-29, 32, 36, 39-44, 46-51, 55 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0001704 of Chan et al. (hereinafter Chan) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,833,848 of

Wolff et al. (hereinafter Wolff) and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0048848 of Li et al. (hereinafter Li).

Specifically, the Examiner points to Chan as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus which records and reproduces a plurality of still image files and sound files with respect to a recording medium and provides a display apparatus with a screen of play list indicating sound files being currently reproduced, including a display menu for supporting the display apparatus such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are alternately displayed in a first predetermined area of the screen of play list, a decoder for decoding the still image files and the sound files recorded in the recording apparatus, and a memory for storing the still image files and the sound files as decoded.

The Examiner points to Wolff as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus having a main control unit for performing a process operation such that, when the display menu is selected during the reproducing of the sound files stored in the memory, one or more files among the stored still image files are alternately displayed on a second predetermined area of the screen of play list.

The Examiner points to Li as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus having a decoder for decoding and storing the plurality of still image files, such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are decoded and stored in the memory while the decoder is idle, purportedly anticipating the system and method as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3.

The Examiner first points to Chan as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus which records and reproduces a plurality of still image files and sound files with respect to a recording medium and provides a display apparatus with a screen of play list indicating sound files being currently reproduced, including a display menu for supporting the display apparatus such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are alternately displayed in a first predetermined area of the screen of play list, a decoder for decoding the still image files and the sound files recorded in the recording apparatus, and a memory for storing the still image files and the sound files as decoded.

The Chan reference describes a system and method for providing a still image slide show with background audio. To do so, the system and method is provided to read video and audio data from a storage media, and present the data via a slide show with background audio as selected by a user. Specifically, the display of the Chan reference is configured such that the user can select the association between the slide show and background audio, even in the case of random association (see paragraph 37 and Fig. 6). However, the Applicants recite a system and method wherein the display menu supports the display apparatus such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are alternately displayed in a first predetermined area of the screen of play list, and one or more files among the stored still image files are alternately displayed on a second predetermined area of the screen of play list. The Examiner notes that Chan does not disclose the system and method for the display of the one or more files among the stored still image files on a second predetermined area of the screen of play list (see Office Action, page 4, lines 1-2).

Accordingly, the Examiner points to Wolff as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus having a main control unit for performing a process operation such that, when the display menu is selected during the reproducing of the sound files stored in the memory, one or more files among the stored still image files are alternately displayed on a second predetermined area of the screen of play list (see Wolff Fig. 1).

The Wolff reference describes a system and method for storing, authoring and viewing various forms of digital media. To do so, the system and method provides for the receipt of a media, such as a media card, and the display of one or more media objects in a reduced visual representation (see Abstract). A first display area is provided at a top of a screen to show images for browsing and navigating (see 102, Fig. 1). A second display area is provided at a bottom of a screen to show an enlarged image of a selected item of the first display area (see 103, Fig. 1). The third display area shows audio narrations that are available for the display of the second area (see 104, Fig. 1).

However, the Applicants recite a system and method wherein the first predetermined area indicates an area for displaying a display menu for supporting the display such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are alternately displayed.

That is, the first predetermined area is an area for displaying a menu for executing a slide show, and the second predetermined area is an area for showing still image files as a slide show. For example, the Applicants' Fig. 44 illustrates one example of the first predetermined area, that is, the area of the slide show button 2110, and illustrates one example of the second predetermined area, that is, the area of the reference numeral 2120.

The Examiner asserts that such a first predetermined area is described by the disk information area of Fig. 6 of Chan, and that such a second predetermined area is described by the area of reference numeral 103 in Fig. 1 of Wolff. However, the disk information display in Fig. 6 of Chan is an area for *displaying files included on a disk*, whereas the exemplary first predetermined area recited by the Applicants in claim 1 describes an area for *displaying a display menu, that is, the "slide show" button, to display the plurality of still image files.* Accordingly, the Applicants assert that the disk information area of Fig. 6 of Chan does not describe the first predetermined area as recited by the Applicants.

In addition, Fig. 1 of Wolff shows still images to be shown as a slide show, but fails to show or describe the second predetermined area displayed together with the play list. The Applicants recite a system and method wherein the second predetermined area shows the plurality of still images together with the play list, so that the user can identify which image is displayed when a sound file on the play list is reproduced. That is, the Applicants recite a system and method which has the effect that the user can easily identify a still image corresponding to the play list by displaying the still image to be displayed on the screen of play list. However, the Wolff reference fails to describe such a feature of the second predetermined area as recited by the Applicants. Accordingly, the Applicants assert that neither the Chan or Wolff references, separately or in combination, describe a system and method in which the first predetermined area and the second predetermined area are displayed on the screen of play list as recited by the Applicants. The Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 5 to clarify such exemplary first and second areas, displays of each, and the provision of each on the screen of play list.

The Examiner points to Li as disclosing an image recording/reproducing apparatus having a decoder for decoding and storing the plurality of still image files, such that the plurality of still image files recorded in the recording apparatus are decoded and stored in the memory while the decoder is idle. The Li reference describes a system and method for distributed video stream decoding which results in increased decoding efficiency. However, the Li reference also fails to describe a system and method in which the first predetermined area and the second predetermined area are displayed on the screen of play list as recited by the Applicants.

For these reasons, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, and respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Regarding dependent claims 2, 5, 9, 12-17, 19-24, 28, 29, 32, 36, 39-44, 46-51, 55 and 56, the Examiner, in addition to the reasons stated above, further points to Wolff and Chan as disclosing subject matter of each, purportedly anticipating the system and method as recited by the Applicants.

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 2, 5, 9, 12-17, 19-24, 28, 29, 32, 36, 39-44, 46-51, 55 and 56 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 2, 5, 9, 12-17, 19-24, 28, 29, 32, 36, 39-44, 46-51, 55 and 56 for the same reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0033889 of Miyazaki (hereinafter Miyazaki). The Examiner has also rejected claims 6 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0056434 of Kaplan et al. (hereinafter Kaplan).

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 4, 6, 30, 31 and 33 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 4, 6, 30, 31 and 33 for the same reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 7 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0136539 of Nakaya (hereinafter Nakaya). The Examiner has also rejected claims 8 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0012522 of Kawakami et al. (hereinafter Kawakami).

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 7, 8, 34 and 35 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 7, 8, 34 and 35 for the same reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 10, 11, 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0123853 of Iwahara et al. (hereinafter Iwahara). The Examiner has also rejected claims 18 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent No. 7,315,389 of Kuwata et al. (hereinafter Kuwata).

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 10, 11, 18, 37, 38 and 45 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 10, 11, 18, 37, 38 and 45 for the same reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 25 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0141580 of Okuyama (hereinafter Okuyama). The Examiner has also rejected claims 26 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0055465 of Inoue (hereinafter Inoue).

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 25, 26, 52 and 53 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 25, 26, 52 and 53 for the same reasons.

The Examiner has rejected claims 27 and 54 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Wolff, Li and U.S. Patent No. 5,969,719 of Tsujimoto (hereinafter Tsujimoto).

However, for the reasons stated above, the Applicants assert that the Wolff, Chan and Li references do not disclose or reasonably suggest, separately or in combination, each element as recited by the Applicants in independent claims 1 and 3, from which claims 27 and 54 depend. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of dependent claims 27 and 54 for the same reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 10, 2008

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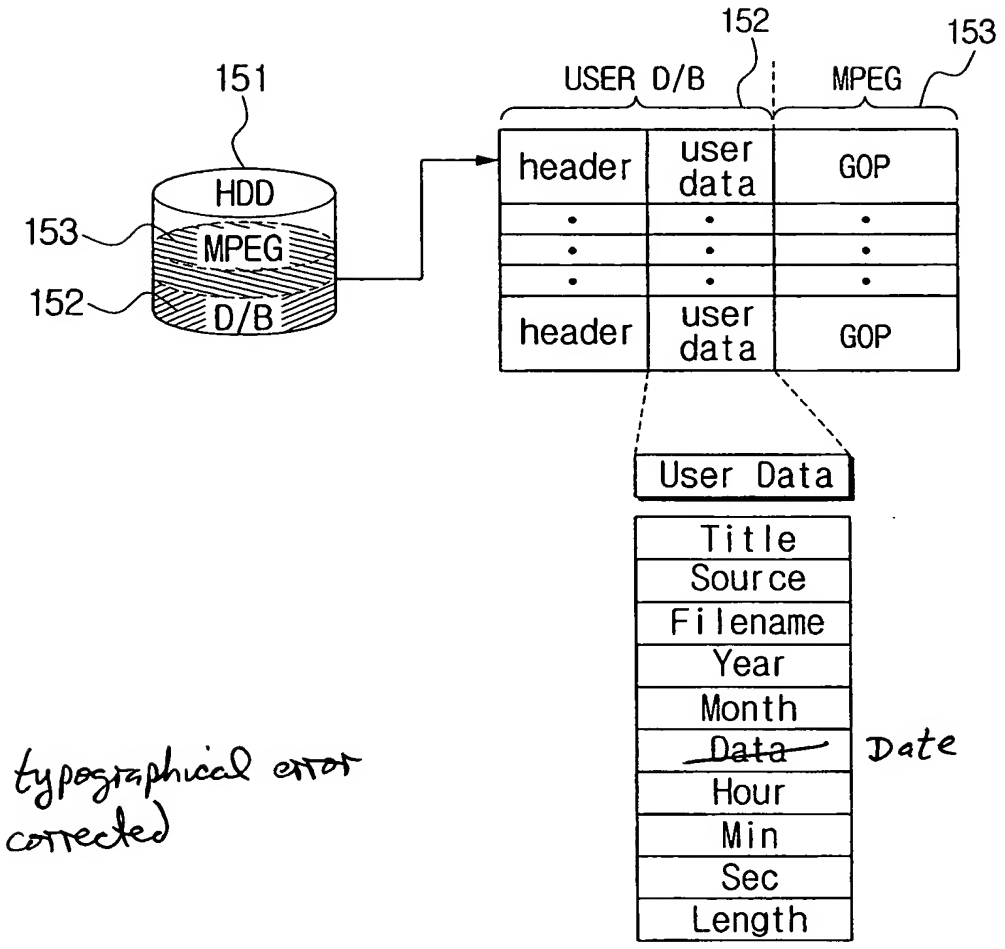
FIG. 3



typographical error corrected

FIG. 14

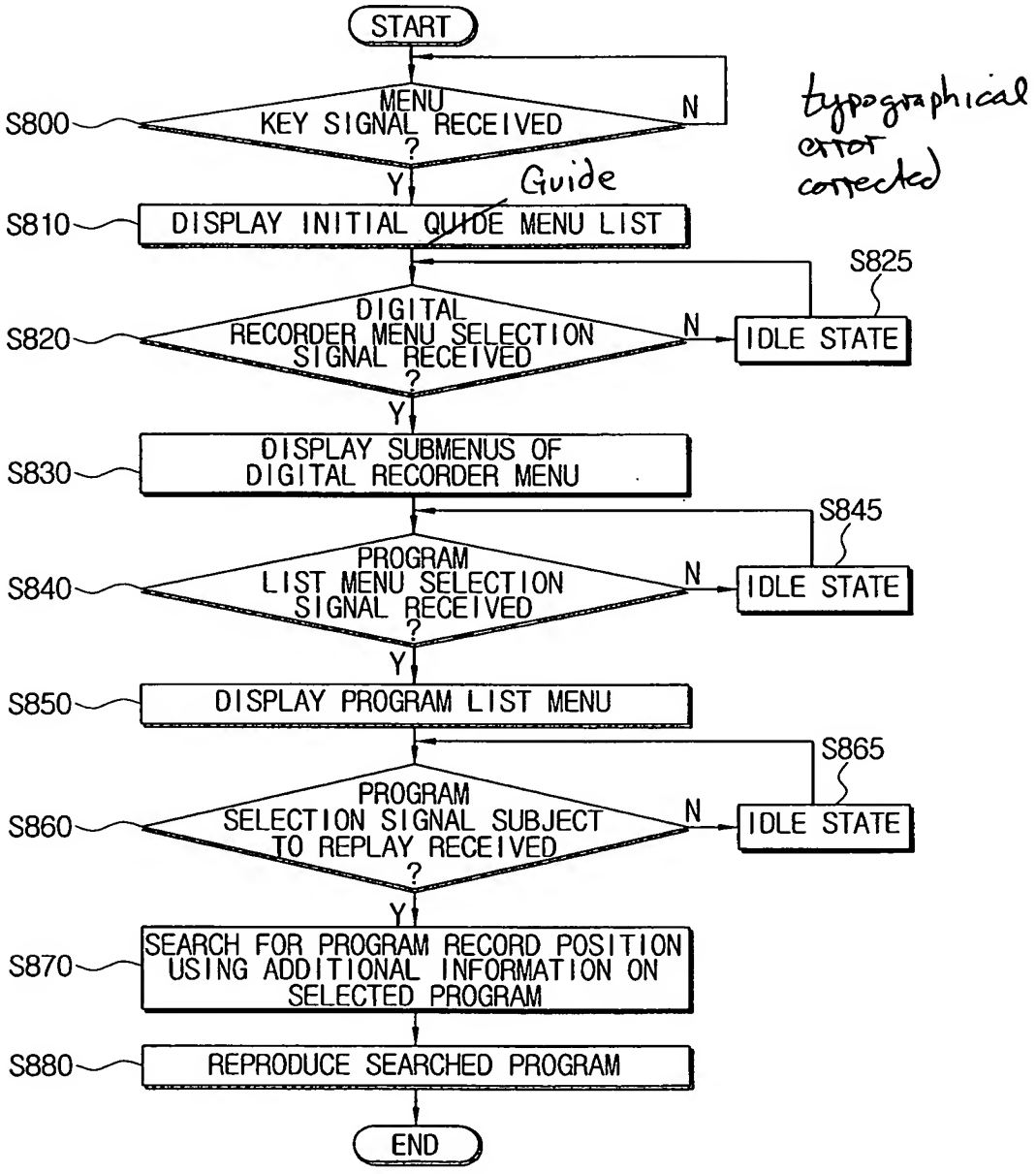
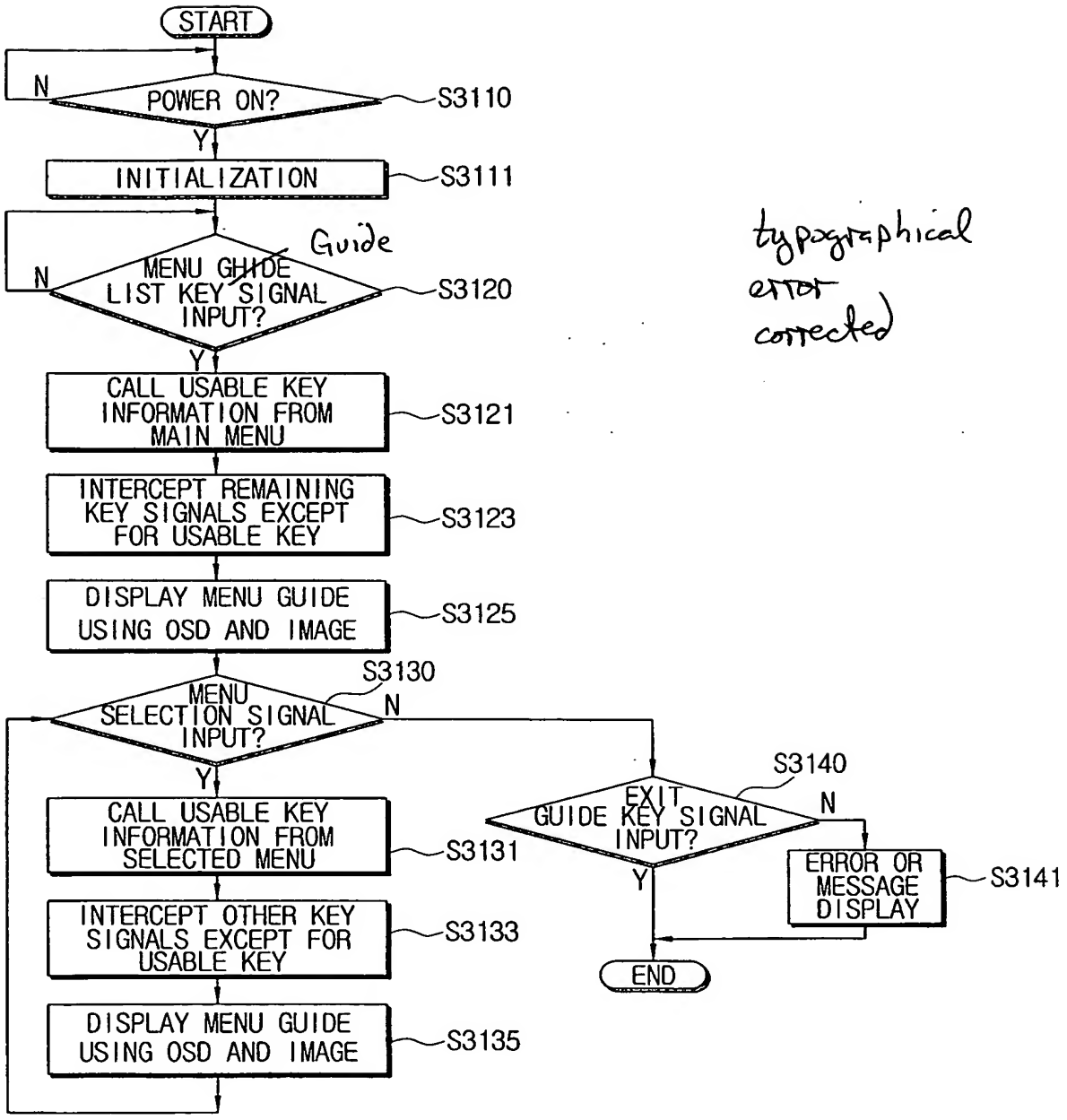

START
S800
MENU KEY SIGNAL RECEIVED ?
N
Y
typographical error corrected)
Guide
S810
DISPLAY INITIAL GUIDE MENU LIST
S825
S820
DIGITAL RECORDER MENU SELECTION SIGNAL RECEIVED ?
N
IDLE STATE
Y
S830
DISPLAY SUBMENUS OF DIGITAL RECORDER MENU
S845
S840
PROGRAM LIST MENU SELECTION SIGNAL RECEIVED ?
N
IDLE STATE
Y
S850
DISPLAY PROGRAM LIST MENU
S865
S860
PROGRAM SELECTION SIGNAL SUBJECT TO REPLAY RECEIVED ?
N
IDLE STATE
Y
S870
SEARCH FOR PROGRAM RECORD POSITION USING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SELECTED PROGRAM
S880
REPRODUCE SEARCHED PROGRAM
END

FIG. 69



typographical error corrected